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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

OF THE

TOWN OF

# Franconia, N.H.

FOR THE

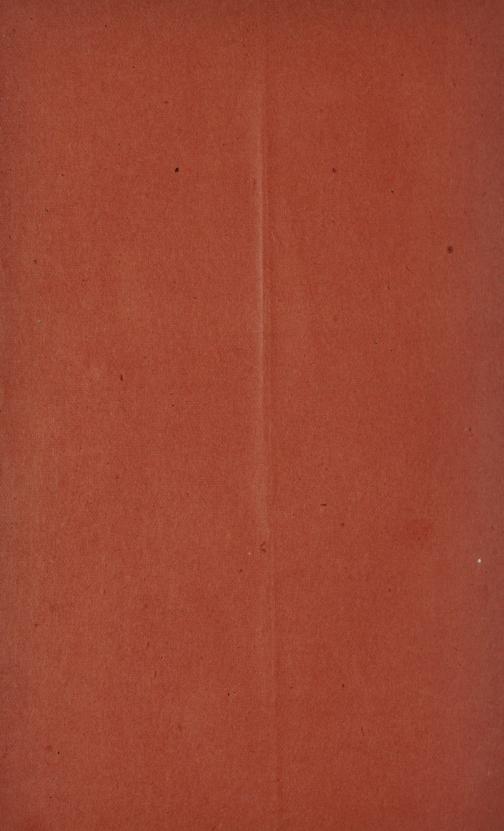
Year Ending February 15, 1896,

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORTS OF THE

Superintendent of the Cemetery, the Board of Library
Trustees, and Board of Education.

LITTLETON, N. H.: COURIER PUBLISHING COMPANY, PRINTERS, 1896.

> NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY



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## Selectmen's Report.

TO THE TAX-PAYERS OF THE TOWN OF FRANCONIA:

In submitting the following report of the financial standing of the town to the careful consideration and charitable judgment of our fellow-citizens, the undersigned desire briefly to call attention to the fact that the fiscal year, ending February 15, 1896, has been in many respects a most unusual one.

While it has been our constant endeavor to administer the trust committed to our care in a just and equitable manner, we have been compelled to labor under serious and unusual difficulties. For reasons still unexplained our taxpayers voted at the last annual meeting to raise but one per centum of the valuation to meet all the current expenses of the year.

The total valuation of the real and personal property of the town in April, 1895, was \$380,432.00. The tax therefore, on this sum at one per cent. would be \$3,804.32.

The total valuation of the property of the town in 1894 was \$385,386.40, and the rate of taxation then fixed by the voters of the town was one and two-fifths per cent.

The tax thus raised was \$5,395.41, a sum greater than the tax raised at the last assessment by \$1,591.09.

In the month of April, 1895, the highways of the town were injured by a freshet to the extent of not less than \$900.00.

During the year we have constructed two new highways at a cost of \$531.15.

The unfortunate accident to Leonard M. Tuttle cost the town \$82.42.

The county tax in 1895 was \$80.80 in excess of the tax assessed in 1894.

In 1894 a balance was due the town from the state of New Hampshire of \$85.82. In 1895 a balance was due the state from

the town of \$173.04, making a balance against the town on this item alone, as compared with 1894, of \$258.86.

Bringing these items together, we find an extraordinary balance against us in 1895, as compared with 1894, in round numbers, of \$3,445.00.

The present board found in the treasury at the begining of the present fiscal year the sum of \$1,189.98. Our predecessors also found in the treasury, on February 15, 1894, the modest little sum of \$540.27. The difference of these sums leaves a balance in our favor of \$649.71.

Deducting this sum from the amount given above, \$3,445.00, there still remains against us an ugly balance of \$2,795.29.

Other things, then, being equal, the present board has been called upon to meet a deficiency—or an equivalent—as compared with last year, of \$2,795.29.

To meet this extraordinary balance against us, together with the ordinary current expenses of the town, we have been obliged to practice the most rigid economy compatible, in our judgment, with the true interests and dignity of our town.

After a careful examination of the foregoing facts and figures we feel sure that no citizen can entertain surprise that we have been compelled to exhaust the treasury balance left us by our predecessors, increase the public debt, and pass over to our successors in office a treasury that is practically empty.

We are confident rather that each one will consider it a matter of the most sincere congratulation that with so great financial difficulties to overcome, we have been able to reach the close of this fiscal year with comparatively so small an increase of the public debt.

Below we give the figures to which we invite careful attention.

## Financial Statement.

#### RECEIPTS.

Balance, cash on hand, Feb. 15, 1895	\$1,189	98
Grafton county pauper claims of 1894	73	88
H. P. Godard, note given	150	00
Lucy Godard, " "	300	00
Emma J. Cheney, " "	50	00
State of New Hampshire, railroad tax	126	67
" " Savings bank tax	483	29
" " " literary fund	42	00
Licenses on dogs	44	00
W. J. B. Stanley, rental	3	00
Joel Spooner, tax of 1894	432	86
" " " 1895	720	85
I. H. Glover, " "	2,928	00

\$6,544 53

#### EXPENDITURES.

State tax			\$825	00
County tax			888	80

\$1,713 80

#### WATER TROUGHS.

C. A. Watson	\$5	83
Alvin Grimes	4	50
H. W. Noyes	1	00
Henry Whipple	4	50
W. S. Spooner	1	50

I. H. Glover	3	00		
E. G. Harris	2	50		
O. G. Crane	2	00		
S. J. Pease	3	00		
Bowles Brothers	2	00		
			4 0	-
			\$25 8	3
SCHOOLS.				
W. F. Parker, text books and supplies	Ø-15	00		
O. Parker, treasurer school board	\$145 660			
O. Parker, treasurer school board		00		
			\$805 8	88
LIGHTING STREET	S.			
W. F. Parker, material	\$ 8	25		
Benjamin S. Judd, setting posts		75		
Globe Gas Light Co., new lamps and extras		27		
C. Huntoon, freight		75		
C. Huntoon, oil and labor	249			
			\$308 4	6
mown, Appropria			\$308 4	6
TOWN OFFICERS.			\$308 4	6
TOWN OFFICERS.  George H. Burt, police officer	\$ 3	00	\$308 4	.6
	\$ 3		\$308 4	.6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses		00	\$308 4	.6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " "	3 5	00	\$308 4	,6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses	3 5 5	00	\$308 4	6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses	3 5 5 21	00 00 00	\$308 4	,6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer	3 5 5 21 5	00 00 00 00	\$308 4	,6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94"	3 5 5 21 5 15	00 00 00 00 56	\$308 4	,6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer	3 5 5 21 5 15 3	00 00 00 00 56	\$308 4	,6
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94' C. A. Peabody, game warden C. A. Peabody, overseer of the poor	3 5 5 21 5 15 3 4	00 00 00 00 56 00 50	\$308 4	46
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94' C. A. Peabody, game warden C. A. Peabody, overseer of the poor W. F. Parker, moderator	3 5 5 21 5 15 3 4	00 00 00 00 56 00 50	\$308 4	46
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94' C. A. Peabody, game warden C. A. Peabody, overseer of the poor	3 5 5 5 2 I 1 5 5 1 5 3 4 4 4 2 2	00 00 00 56 00 50 50	\$308 4	46
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94' C. A. Peabody, game warden C. A. Peabody, overseer of the poor W. F. Parker, moderator W. F. Parker, auditor W. J. Young, supervisor	3 5 5 21 5 15 3 4 4 2 2	00 00 00 56 00 50 50 00 00	\$308 4	46
George H. Burt, police officer F. A. Gleason, " " L. M. Aldrich, police officer and expenses C. H. Peabody, police officer and expenses George H. Burt, town clerk J. A. Morris, member Board of Health O. Parker, treasurer I. H. Glover, game warden '94' C. A. Peabody, game warden C. A. Peabody, overseer of the poor W. F. Parker, moderator W. F. Parker, auditor	3 5 5 21 5 15 3 4 4 2 2	00 00 00 56 00 50 50 00	\$308 4	46

H. H. Clark, member Board of Health	2	00
C. E. Whipple, member school board in '94	5	00
C. E. Whipple, member school board in '95	5	00
H. H. Clark, member school board in '94	10	00
H. H. Clark, member school board in '95	10	00
L. M. Aldrich, truant officer	14	00
I. H. Glover, collector	39	36
George H. Burt, dog constable	3	00
H. H. Clark, first selectman	43	00
W. B. Chase, second selectman	48	00
F. P. Whitney, third selectman	38	00

\$299 92

#### REPAIRS ON HIGHWAYS.

R. C. Bean       14 40         C. K. Corliss       1 50         Frank Clark       8 00         J. R. Streeter       1 50         Otis Brooks       8 62         Frank Locke       12 00         W. L. Tillotson       8 60         W. H. Streeter       1 00         Herbert Eastman       50         E. V. Powers       2 85
Frank Clark       8 00         J. R. Streeter       1 50         Otis Brooks       8 62         Frank Locke       12 00         W. L. Tillotson       8 60         W. H. Streeter       1 00         Herbert Eastman       50
J. R. Streeter       1 50         Otis Brooks       8 62         Frank Locke       12 00         W. L. Tillotson       8 60         W. H. Streeter       1 00         Herbert Eastman       50
Otis Brooks       8 62         Frank Locke       12 00         W. L. Tillotson       8 60         W. H. Streeter       1 00         Herbert Eastman       50
Frank Locke 12 00 W. L. Tillotson 8 60 W. H. Streeter 1 00 Herbert Eastman 50
W. L. Tillotson 8 60 W. H. Streeter 1 00 Herbert Eastman 50
W. H. Streeter 1 00 Herbert Eastman 50
Herbert Eastman 50
E. V. Powers 2 85
Joe Delange 3 75
Henry Harriman 20 00
E. B. Aldrich
A. C. Howland
F. H. Sanborn 16 00
E. W. Brooks 8 oo
H. P. Godard
Thomas Golden 12 00
J. H. Streeter 9 00
O. W. Aldrich 6 75
Will Woods 2 62
Benjamin S. Judd 9 37
Fred Gleason 75

Abraham Labrador	3	00
C. A. Watson	55	30
John Mears	15	
E. G. Harris	I 2	
W. W. Corey	19	
Edward Comit	24	00
Arthur Streeter	22	20
W. J. Young	4	00
P. O. Taylor		75
L. M. Aldrich	5	00
S. H. Smith	3	00
C. E. Harriman	5	25
L. F. Smith	2	45
Dick Munn	3	
Bert Glines	I	
L. E. Bowles	10	
J. H. Callahan	5	25
Taft & Greenleaf	83	60
F. P. Whitney	13	50
Albert Richardson	41	15
Caleb Huntoon	3	00
Alex Jesseman	83	30
C. E. Whipple	63	90
E. D. Chase	. 1	75
J. W. Dudley	5	00
Albert Bowles	3	00
E. F. Grimes	6	30
W. W. Brooks	19	13
F. G. Hatch	9	45
C. C. Edson	29	25
H. C. Aldrich	96	82
W. B. Chase	116	50
O. G. Crane	35	75
D. K. Priest	102	30
Alvin Grimes	5	45
True Sanborn	64	95
Clarence Gould	31	50
C. H. Locke	9	75

Henry Whipple	13	75		
E. W. Harriman	41	25		
Geo. B. Clough	48	45		
H. E. Spooner	84	87		
F. P. Tucker		75		
Moses Wells	26	40		
Bowles Brothers	110	75		
W. F. Parker, material furnished	27	82		
Stephen Eaton's estate, shavings	10	00		
E. W. Brooks, snowing bridge	2	50		
J. R. Grimes	2	70	4	
			\$1,591	
C. F. Edson, services as road agent			387	05
PAID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF N	NEW H	IGH	WAYS.	
For new highway near C. Huntoon's.				
D. S. Phillips, land damage	\$100	00		
A. Plant, labor	271	44		
C. Huntoon, building fence	25	00		
E. B. Aldrich, labor	6	25		
			\$402	60
For new highway near J. Quimby's.				,
James Quimby, land damage	\$32	21		
C. E. Bowles " "		50		
Hibbard Bowles "		50		
W. B. Chase, labor		25		
-	33			
			\$128	46
DAID FOR COUNTY DA	LIDEDC			
PAID FOR COUNTY PA	UPERS			
E. B. Aldrich for Mrs. B. Bowles	\$10	00		
W. F. Parker for Benj. Judd	47	00		
			\$57	00
PAID FOR TOWN PAU	PERS.			
C. A. Peabody for Mrs. E. Aldrich	\$ 7	64		
Grafton County farm for Mrs. E. Aldrich		28		
			\$34	92
			. 0 1	

#### PAID FOR LUMBER.

Parker	&	Brooks
D. J. V	Vhi	itcher

\$1	33	05	
1	4	87	
		\$1;	37 92

#### PAID ON ACCOUNT FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

To trustees for purchase of books	\$150 0	00	
To D. E. Woodward, services as librarian	50 0	00	
		- \$200	00

#### MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid Dr. Morris, reporting births and deaths	\$ 3 00	
Dr. McGregor " " " "	4 50	
Dr. Sanger " " " "	I 50	
W. F. Parker, stationary	20	
H. H. Clark, blank, blank-books, ex-		
pressage, expenses, etc.,	10' 03	
H. H. Clark, examination of county re-		
cords in 1894, in suit of J. E.		
Henry & Sons	4 50	
G. H. Burt, recording and returning		
marriages, births and deaths	9 60	
H. H. Clark, appropriation for Decora-		
tion day	25 00	
O. Parker, use of hall	25 00	
W. B. Chase, bounty on hawks	I 00	
L. M. Aldrich, repairs	I 42	
J. A. Smalley, blacksmithing	4 25	
J. R. Streeter, "	3 45	
J. R. Grimes, labor and material, old		
cemetery	32 60	
Henry Spooner, labor, old cemetery	5 00	
Geo. E. Putney, keeping tramps	7 50	
G. H. Burt, licensing dogs	4 69	
-		\$143 24

#### PAID ON ACCOUNT OF L. A. TUTTLE.

L. A. Tuttle, on account of injury	sustained \$2	20 00	
Dr. Morris, professional services	. 1	15 00	
B. H. Richardson, for board		9 14	
J. W. Remick	3	38 28	
		\$82	42

#### ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

John M. Bickford, tax of 1895	\$15 oo
Ezra Aldrich """"	6 00
Henry Whipple """"	50
L. M. Aldrich for E. K. Cogswell	3 00
	\$24 50

# SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1, 1896.

#### RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand, Feb. 15, 186 From County of Grafton, p	, 0	
For three notes given	500	00
From State of New Hamps	hire, railroad tax 126	67
cc cc cc	savings bank tax 483	29
cc	literary fund \ 42	00
For dog licenses	44	00
Of W. J. B. Stanley	3	00
Of Joel Spooner, tax collect	tor 1,153	71
Of I. H. Glover, tax collect	or 2,928	00

#### EXPENDITURES.

For repairs on highways	\$1,591	70
Services of road agent	387	
Lumber	137	-
Two new highways	531	
Library	200	
Miscellaneous bills	225	66
County paupers	57	00
Town paupers	34	92
Town officers	299	92
Water troughs	25	83
Schools	805	88
Lighting streets	308	46
Abatement of taxes	24	50
State tax	825	00
County tax	888	80
Indorsement on Joel Spooner's note	28	88
Total expenditures	\$6,372	67
Cash on hand	171	86

\$6,544 53

#### LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

C 70 7771 1 1		1		. u	
C. E. Whipple,	note	e and	interest	\$479	61
C. E. Whipple	66	66	66	259	38
Joel Spooner	66	6.6	. 66	276	03
H. W. Noyes	66	66	66	1,402	72
Elmore Whipple	66	66	66	360	48
Lydia Spooner	66	66	66	211	77
Lydia Spooner	"	66	66	110	14
Henry Spooner	"	66	"	440	59
D. K. Priest				546	20
Emma C. Hildre	th			284	01
Lucy Godard				306	50
H. P. Godard				153	25
Emma J. Cheney	у			50	90

Dow cemetery fund	100 00
Dr. W. B. Moody, cemetery fund	28 00
	\$5,009 58

#### ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

Due from Mrs. H. Knight, note an	d interest \$83	66
ee ee ee ee	" 39	01
Grafton County pauper claim	57	00
On tax bill of 1893	467	
" " " " 1894	64	88
" " " " 1895	115	34
From town of Livermore for		
town line in 1893		75
Interest on same to February		0
C. F. Edson, road agent		22
From E. G. Harris, unexpecte	d balance .	
appropriation for Decor		
in 1892	2	80
H. H. Clark, unexpected ba	alance of	
appropriation for Decor	ration day	
1895	6	34
Highway bills for 1892		27
Cash on hand	171	86
		-
Total assets	1,077	33
Total debt, February 15, 1896	3,932	
		\$5,000 58

#### Franconia, N. H., Feb. 24th, 1896.

I hereby certify that I have carefully examined the foregoing account of the Selectmen and I find all the expenditures properly vouched for and the account accurately cast.

W. F. PARKER, AUDITOR.

In conclusion we beg to say that while in general our labors in the discharge of our official duties have been pleasant indeed, yet in certain respects circumstances have seemed to be adverse. Our citizens evidently honestly expected that during the fiscal year, 1895-6, we would be visited by no misfortunes and that slight demands for money would be made upon us, but the unexpected has happened as it usually does. The year has been in many respects an extraordinary one.

It is always exceedingly unpleasant for a board of selectmen to be obliged to hire money to meet the legitimate current expenses of the town.

The unthinking immediately cry out that the administration of affairs has been characterized by great extravagance, and that the public debt has been unnecessarily increased.

The current expenses of the town must be met, and the responsibility rests upon the selectmen.

As will be readily seen our expenses have been, during the past year, unusually large.

The demands upon us from several sources have been imperious, especially has this been the case for money to make repairs upon our highways, and we have furnished for labor and lumber for this purpose alone, the enormous sum of \$2,123.42.

We are not in the least surprised to find that the impression is fast gaining ground in the minds of the men who pay the bills, that our highway bills are too heavy, since our roads according to reports from all sections of the town are not in prime condition.

The effice of read agent is not only the most lucrative one, but in many respects the mest responsible one in the gift of the voters of the town, and the best man in the town should always be selected for it, with no regard for policical or personal preference. Our citizens should exercise much wisdom in their selection; they should vote alike in the interest of the \*\*payayer\* and in the interest of good roads.

Estimating the length of the public highways of the town at thirty miles, the repairs on these highways cost in 1893-4, approximately \$58.83 per mile; in 1894-5, \$52.83 per mile; and in 1895-6, \$70.78 per mile. The large increase in the expense of last year over previous years is undoubtedly explained by the freshet of last April.

Our citizens are generous and public spirited and would not complain of the expense if they could be made to believe that they are getting an equivalent for their money.

Our roads are so situated that if they could be kept in good condition they would be charming drives for our summer visitors.

The many delightful building sites in our town would be sought out and utilized; the value of all our real estate would thereby be advanced and our farmers would in every sense be the gainers.

We urge our fellow citizens to act wisely in this matter. We beg to make the following suggestions:

- 1st That at least 1.5 per cent. of the valuation be raised to repair highways and bridges and to meet the current expenses of the town for the ensuing year.
- 2d. That the sum of \$25 be appropriated for the observance of Decoration Day.
- 3d. That \$150 be appropriated for the purchase of books for the Public Library and \$50 for the services the libearian.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

HENRY H. CLARK, SELECTMEN W. B. CHASE, F. F. WHITNEY, FRANCONI.A.

Franconia, N. H., Feb. 24, 1896.

#### REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD.

As heretofore two schools of thirty-five weeks each have been maintained in the academy building. The teachers have brought to their work more than ordinary ability and culture, a good degree of enthusiasm, and creditable results have followed. Sixty different pupils have received instruction in these schools. Generally the attendance has been good, and comparatively few instances of tardiness are recorded.

The parents have not shown that degree of personal interest in the schools that would seem to us commendable. If we except the name of the principal of the academy, the name of a father of a child in these schools does not appear in the list of visitors during the entire year. A few of the mothers—not all—have manifested their interest by visiting the schools. But where were the fathers? Have not they an equal interest in the development of their children? Could they not spare one hour from their labors during the entire year, in which to encourage both pupil and teacher by their interest and kindly presence in the school room?

The teachers have wrought faithfully and well; the children have wrought equally well, but the parents have been derelict.

Every school is made up of three elements,—the parents, the scholars, and the teacher, in the order named.

Now remove the helpfulness, the sympathy, the encouragement of the parent, and the efficiency of the school is very materially impared.

Every parent is under a moral obligation to sustain the school, to visit it frequently, to keep in close accord with the teacher, to counsel and advise with her, and always to manifest an interest in the welfare of his children.

#### TEXT BOOKS.

During the year it has been the privilege and pleasure of the School Board to introduce into our schools some of the most modern and approved text-books in the market. For the Lippincott's Readers, which we have used many years, we have introduced the

Normal Readers, with their alternates. For Butler's Geography, which has long been adjudged too voluminous and a little too cumbersome to be of the highest usefulness to our scholars, we have introduced Frye's series, fresh from the hands of the publishers, and therefore incorporating all the improvements and discoveries that have recently enriched the science. We call attention to this book as truly a most beautiful work, both in its plan and execution. We have also introduced the Normal Spellers and Walsh's Arithmetic.

We do not deem it necessary to enter into a discussion of the superior merits of the text-books introduced over those displaced, but simply desire to say in justification, that the members of your school board have, as they believe, the true interests of the children at heart and most sincerely desire to encourage and promote them.

The books displaced are not, in the highest sense, truly modern; our children have become tired of them. It is "the new broom that sweeps clean." The books introduced are the newest and freshest of their kind in the market; they are written by practical and successful teachers and therefore embody the result of the freshest thought, the richest expression, and the most modern developement in the art of teaching.

"The world moves" is but another way of saying that true progress and development are being made on all lines of thought and energy

What was good enough for the man twenty-five years ago is not good enough for his child today. If he had the best within his reach then, in simple justice let him demand for his child the best and the latest that can possibly be obtained today, and let him be satisfied with nothing less than the best.

In no line perhaps, has there been more marked advancement; nowhere has there been a richer display of creative thought in the last two decades than in the production of text-books for the common school, and nowhere has the result been more creditable.

The two great tests of a successful text-book are that it shall be a true exponent of the science presented by it, an I that it shall be teachable. After careful deliberation we have selected, as we believe, the text-books that answer both of these tests in a remarkable degree, and we congratulate our citizens on the most excellent aids now in the hands of their children.

The boys and girls of Franconia are just as bright and worthy, just as promising and ambitious as are those of any other town. The parents of these children have just as good reason to expect that their sons and daughters will yet occupy exalted positions of honor, trust and usefulness in the church and state, just as good reason to expect that they will yet be proud of them for their own merit and achievements, as have the parents in any other locality in our state or nation.

It is but fair then, and especially is it due our children, that they shall be supplied with the brightest, freshest and most helpful appliances that can be procured.

We feel very sure that the comparatively small additional expenditure thereby incurred will not be weighed for a moment, by any one, against the largely increased advantages insured to our boys and girls who are soon to take our places on the stage of action.

#### THE FREE TEXT-BOOK LAW.

Before the free text-book law was passed there was more or less complaint by the poorer classes of the expense incurred in providing text-books for their children. The great multiplicity of text-books was particularly declaimed against. Frequently a parent has been heard to say, "When I was at school one text-book on a subject was deemed quite sufficient. I studied but one Arithmetic and one Grammar and I have these books at home now in as good condition as they ever were, but in these days of 'new fangled notions' a multiplicity of text-books is required. What was good enough for me is good enough for my children."

Out of this complaint, carrying with it some sense of injustice, has grown the free text-book law as it stands on our statute book today. The burden of expense is now lifted from the poor man as an individual and is met out of the public funds of the town. Now it is our boast that the child of poorer parents is just as liberally supplied with every necessary aid and appliance for the successful prosecution of school work as are the children of

the wealthy. So far the law is most excellent in its workings. It has been on trial so long that its evil effects are also plainly evident.

If the scholar of two or three decades ago could use a single text-book during his entire course and today is able to produce the book uninjured, one of two inferences must be drawn; either he did not study the book with the same "degree of hard earnestness" that characterizes the boy and girl of today, or, if he did so use it, he took most excellent care of it. Since in his own estimation, at least, he can "outfigure" the boys of today, let us grant him the advantage of the second inference and seek just here the weak feature of this law. Its working engenders a spirit of destructive wastefulness wholly incompatible with the spirit of true economy that every parent, rich or poor, should cultivate in the minds of his children with the most earnest and faithful sedulity.

It seems to us after a careful study of the workings of this law that it is educationally bad, positively injurious; that the small sum of money saved to the parent is many times over balanced by the formation in the mind of the child of habits of indifference to the value of property, of wastefulness and destructiveness that in adult age can not be confined to the treatment of books, but will of necessity leaven the whole economy of life.

We frankly admit that the parent could by wise instruction come to the aid of this law and make it in every sense a success, but the fact is the parent does not and will not do this.

It has been remarked that the deleterious effects of this law are clearly manifested in the injury to the books of the public library. Instances have been brought to our notice of books that ought, with good usage, to be in good condition after a service of ten years, but are in prime condition for the binder after a service of less than a year. We do not go far astray we think in tracing this evil directly to the free text-book law.

It is frequently said in extenuation that the teacher ought to be responsible for the treatment of the books while in the hands of the children. This is true only in part. The teachers can in this respect, at least, only supplement instruction that has been sedulously inculcated in the home. Let our parents look carefully into the workings of this law in the minds and habits of their children and by timely and wise instruction so nullify its evil effects that it shall be in every sense beneficial.

All of which is very respectfully submitted,

HENRY H. CLARK, C. E. WHIPPLE, C. E. BOWLES, SCHOOL BOARD OF FRANCONIA.

Franconia, N. H., Feb. 24, 1896.

#### REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES.

The one possession of our people in which every one appears to take an honest and commendable pride is our Public Library.

Centrally located, under the efficient management of Miss Daisy E. Woodward, it has been a source of increasing pleasure and profit to all our people.

With a generosity alike creditable and praiseworthy, our tax-payers, at the last annual meeting, again appropriated the sum of \$150.00 to be expended for books, and \$50.00 for the services of the Librarian.

We have received as follows:

By vote of the town	\$150	00	
Balance in treasury	5	ΙI	
In fines	9	90	
By sale of cards	I	00	
In gifts, Miss Apthorp	10	00	
Rev. Mr. Kitcher	1	00	
A total available sum in the hands of the trustees of Of this sum we have expended as follows: For books For stationery, oil, freight and other incidentals	\$174	74	\$178 oi
A total expenditure of			\$174 80
We have now a balance in the treasury of			I 21

An equivalent of 2,236 books have been read during the year, a gain of 418 volumes over last year, a very creditable showing, indeed, for our people.

Of the books read during the past year 90 per cent. have been works of fiction.

The trustees have been fortunate in securing an excellent reprint of the Encyclopaedia Britannica,—24 volumes and index,

in a neat case, for the extremely reasonable sum of \$50.00. Heretofore we have had no standard works of reference, now we have the best.

Few families, if any, in our town would think themselves able to own this valuable work.

Now its use, under the direction of the Librarian, is free to every citizen of our town and even to "the stranger within our gates."

In addition to these 25 volumes, the trustees have been able to place upon our shelves 157 volumes of choice reading adapted, as we think, to all classes of readers, to every age, to every grade and character of mind.

We have also received by the courtesy of the Hon. J. H. Gallanger and the Hon. H. M. Baker five volumes which we desire thankfully to acknowledge.

With the additions made during the past year, we have now on our shelves 1,092 volumes, a most creditable and enduring monument, not alone of the noble generosity, but of the wisdom, sagacity and excellent judgment of our fellow citizens who carry the burdens and pay the taxes.

The trustees have exercised more than usual care in making the selection of books, desiring not only to place upon our shelves books of high moral character, the influence of which shall always be uplifting, inspiring and helpful to every reader, but also, so far as possible, to defer to every preference and gratify every reasonable desire.

To what extent our efforts have been successful we point with no small degree of satisfaction to the increasing desire of our young people to read the better class of books and to the very generous patronage of the Library by all classes of people.

In conclusion we beg to suggest that \$150.00 be appropriated for the purchase of books and \$50.00 for the services of the Librarian.

We also beg to suggest that steps be taken to have the Library, including the books and furniture, insured against loss by fire.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

HENRY H. CLARK, WILBUR F. PARKER, TRUSTEES.

# REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CEMETERY.

#### RECEIPTS.

Received of Mrs. Warren Smith	for lot	\$10 00	
Mrs. J. R. Cogswell	66 66	10 00	
C. A. Watson	"	10 00	
Adelbert Jesseman	66 66	10 00	
Mrs. Levi Streeter	66 66	10 00	
			\$50 00

#### DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid George B. Clough, labor	\$8 00	
D. K. Priest, "	6 00	
W. W. Corey, "	3 50	
Dow Academy, lumber	2 00	
H. W. Noyes, labor	8 25	
	28 55	
Balance in hands of Superintendent	21 45	
	Acceptor construct (Milestologopopopo	\$50 <b>0</b> 0

# LIST OF AMOUNTS DUE FOR LOTS SOLD AND UNPAID.

David Dexter	\$2	50
C. H. Locke	10	00
G. A. Quimby	10	00
Henry Harriman	10	00
J. W. Beane	10	00
G. F. Smith	10	00

B. J. Judd	10 00
J. C. Bostwick	10 00
A. Jesseman	10 00
C. Jesseman	10 00
H. Aldrich	10 00
Mrs. H. Knight	10 00
G. H. Burt	10 00
	\$122 50

H. W. NOYES, SUPERINTENDENT.



Births Registered in the Town of Franconia, N. H., for the Year Ending December 31, 1895.

Mother's Age	
Father's Age	
Mother's Birthplace	Sutton Canada New York Ebnore Vt Chreoli Brithfeld Prancoula W Panville Vt Bethlehem
Father's Birthplace.	Whitefield Franconia, Franconia, Whitefield Lisbon Lisbon Bethehem Bethehem Franconia Franconia Canada
Father's Occupation	Farmer Laborer -arpenter Farmer Carnenter Clergyman Farmer
Residence	Franconia Farmer Carpen Farmer Carnen Cherxy
Mother's Name	ida E Dressor Nello L Staples Exelia Fortier Mary E NcCabe Lydias Chandler Alico F Rassell Elizaboth M Stone Mary II Young Laura M Bickford Laura M Bickford Laura M Bickford Mary Eaton Mary Eaton
Father's Name	Ira M (Oolby) George A Quimby Joe Delarge Etery W Hurriman R'chard C Bean Prankin P (Tark Oraman G (Nane Wilbar E Wels Joseph R Franklin William A Allisen Loderick McVer Carl A Nelson
No. of Children 1st, 2d, etc.	440,00-10-00-10-
Living or Stillb'n	7
Color.	A
xəs	E EN EN E
Name of Child (if any.)	Clayt'r Quimby
E Date of Birth.	Jan. 22 May 22 May 23 App. 28 July 18 Sept 17 Oct. 17 Oct. 17 Nov. 25 Dec. 20

A true copy of Record.

G. H. BURT, Town Clerk.

Marriages Registered in the Town of Franconia, N. H., for the Year Ending December 31, 1895.

				  -		1				
Date of	Place of Marriage,	Name and Surname of Groom and Bride.	Residence of each at time of Marriage.	Age in yeash Color of each	Occupation of Groom and Bride.	Occupation of Place of Birth Croom and Bride.	Name of Parents. Occupation		Name, Residence and official State tion of person by whom married.	Name, Residence and official Sta- tion of person by whom married.
Mar.	Mar. 12 Franconia	Carl A Nelson	Concord Vt	28 W	23 W Laborer	Dalton N H	Daniel Nelson		1st J B S Pillsbury	llsbury
		Stella M Huntoon	Franconia	16	House work	Franconia	Caleb Huntoon	Farmer		r ranconia
	14.	James H Streeter		2.4	Laborer	Lisbon N H	J R Streeter	Housewife	J R Franklin	ıklin
		Isola Nute		22	Sch'l Teacher Littleton	Littleton	silas Nute	At home Farmer	¥	Franconia
June	June 6 Thornton	Milas J Gilman		200	Salesman	W'bend'n Mass	Martha Nute Jeremiah Gilman	At home Farmer	W G Hubbard	bbard
		Alice M Hazeltine	Thornton N H	55	House keeper Thornton	Thornton	M. J. Hazeltine Editor	Housekeeper	Can	Campton N H
July	July 23 Lisbon	Wilbur H Aldrich	Franconia	35	Farmer	Franconia	Hannah Bryant Ezra Aldrich	Housekeeper Farmer	24 S Nickerson	erson
		L MaGrove Lafoe		21	House work	Bethlehem	Mary Aldrich Sel'ah Lafoe		1st	Lisbon N H
Sept.	Sept. 25 Franconia	Frederick J Hall	Williamston Vt	55.	Blacksmith	Foxcroft Me	Sarah Green Carlos Castelo	At home	A Herbe	A Herbert Armes
		E Louise Langmaid Franconia	Franconia	23	Teacher	Ryegate Vt	A H Langmaid	Carpenter	-	Franconia
Oct.	23	Fred D Davis		55	Cook	Henniker N H	Martna Langm d Wm D Davis	At nome Hotel keeper	J R Franklin	nklin
		Laura E Hildreth	Randolph Vt	20	House keeper Roxbury Vt	Roxbury Vt	Ellen A Davis E J Hildreth	At nome Farmer		Franconia
	22 Woodsville	22 Woodsville Harry A Bowles	Franconia	21	Laborer	Franconia	Albert S Bowles	Carpenter	W H Tu	W H Turkington
		Bessie F Hewes	Lyman N H	21	House work	Holden Me	John H Hewes	At nome Lawyer	Пау	ernin N H
Nov.	3 Lisbon	Wilbur D Noyes	Franconia	30	Carpenter	Easton N H	Moses Noves	At nome Farmer	8 S Nickerson	2
		Dairie D Woods		50	House work	Franconia	Dexter Woods Hattie Simonds	Carpenter At home		LISDON N II

Deaths Registered in the Town of Franconia, N. H., for the Year Ending December 31, 1895.

	to	1
	Maiden Name of Mother.	Betsy Davis Mary Parks Nellie L Stap'es Abigail Knapp Abigail Archer Lucy Bemis R Jesseman Elizabeth Mead
	Name of Father.	Coaticook Can Geo A Quimby Reisen Brattleboro Vt John Streeter Simon Smith Hugh K Oakes
Place of Birth.	Mother.	Coaticook Can Keene N H Brattleboro Vt
Place o	Father.	W Housekeeper Franconia Farmer Westmorel'd Franconia
	Occupation.	Farmer W Housekeeper M Housekeeper W Housekeeper M Athone M Housekeeper H tel keeper
und tion.	Single, Married or Widowed.	
Sex and Condition	Male or Female.	M F W EW
0		M F M FM
	Place of Birth.	Bethlehem   19   3 Thornton   18   17 Baston   18 Tranconia   18
	Years. Months of Pays.	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
-		27. 88. 4. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.
	Name and Surname of deceased,	20 Joseph F Watson 12 Fmily J Knight 8 Sylvia Streeter 12 Clay ton Quimby 4 Silas P Wood 5 Horace Knight 9 Gravey Simonds 1 Jazzie J Watson 1 Jazzie J Watson 27 Harriet M Oakes 29 Josiah Richardson
	.585—1895.	Jan Feb Mar Aug Sept Oct

G. H. BURT, Town Clerk. I hereby certify that the above return is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.





